

Message Text

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TAGS:AORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: 93RD EXBD: ITEM 6.3 (CELEBRATION OF 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND PARTICIPATION IN PROPOSED DECADE AGAINST RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION)

REF. DOC 93 EX/26

1. DELEGATION MAY SUPPORT RESOLUTION (PARA 19) TO NOTE PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN REFD. PROPOSALS ARE STILL TOO UNCLASSIFIED

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SKETCHY AND AT TOO EARLY A STAGE TO MERIT ENDORSEMENT, BUT

IF MAJORITY OF MEMBERS INSIST, DEL SHOULD SEEK TO AMEND WORDING OF FIRST PART OF PARA 1 OF DRAFT RESOLUTION TO READ "ENDORSES IN PRINCIPLE THE BROAD OUTLINES OF THE PROPOSALS..."

2. DURING DISCUSSION OF DOCUMENT, DEL MAY WISH TO DRAW UPON FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS:

A. UNESCO IS ONE OF PRINCIPAL UN AGENCIES WITH SPECIFIC TASK OF PROMOTING OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND BASIC FREEDOMS AS FUNDAMENTAL REQUISITE FOR WORLD PEACE AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND FOR ADVANCEMENT OF RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT, HUMAN WELFARE AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE. THESE BROAD OBJECTIVES

CALL FOR BROADEST POSSIBLE APPROACH BY UNESCO IN DEVELOPING ITS PROGRAMS IN THIS FIELD. UNESCO'S PARTICIPATION IN PROPOSED DECADE AGAINST RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, HOWEVER IMPORTANT, MUST NOT CAUSE US TO LOSE SIGHT OF OTHER MAJOR AREAS INVOLVING DENIALS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS. HUMAN RIGHTS ARE INDIVISIBLE , AND THIS PRINCIPLE SHOULD GUIDE UNESCO'S ROLE IN CELEBRATION OF 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

B. BECAUSE HUMAN RIGHTS GOALS ARE OF SUCH FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE, THEY HAVE MAJOR POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS WHICH, IN AN AREA THAT DEPENDS FOR ACTION PRIMARILY ON INDIVIDUAL MEMBER STATES, HAVE IMPEDED UNESCO'S EFFORTS TO PLAY A TRULY EFFECTIVE ROLE. PROBLEM IS WELL ILLUSTRATED BY UNESCO'S DIFFICULTIES IN PERSUADING MEMBERS OF BENEFITS TO BE DERIVED, IN TERMS OF PROMOTION OF HUMAN DIGNITY, INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING AND PEACE, FROM FREE INTERNATIONAL FLOW OF IDEAS AND INFORMATION BY ALL AVAILABLE MEANS. FACT IS THAT DESPITE UNESCO'S REPEATED EFFORTS, MANY MEMBERS STILL RESTRICT OR PREVENT THEIR CITIZENS' SELF-EXPRESSION AND SELF-REALIZATION. INDEED, WE ARE WITNESSING TODAY

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A FLAGRANT DISREGARD AMONG CERTAIN MEMBER STATES FOR THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS TO WHICH UNESCO AND THE WHOLE UN FAMILY ARE DEDICATED. WE KNOW THAT IN SOME COUNTRIES WRITERS, POETS, SCHOLARS AND SCIENTISTS ARE BARRED FROM FULL, EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL ADVANCEMENT OF KNOWLEDGE AND PURSUIT OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND PEACE BY BEING PROHIBITED FROM PUBLISHING THEIR

WORKS, PERSECUTED FOR EXPRESSING THEIR BELIEFS AND PREVENTED FROM MEETING AND EXCHANGING IDEAS WITH THEIR COLLEAGUES.

C. AS ONE STEP IN DIRECTION OF REMEDYING THIS SITUATION, WE WOULD AGAIN COMMEND TO UNESCO PROPOSAL CONTAINED IN U.S. OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES STUDY FOR 1975-1980, THAT UNESCO UNDERTAKE THE PREPARATION OF A DECLARATION ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION, CULTURAL EXPRESSION AND EXCHANGE, AS A USEFUL FOLLOW-UP TO UNESCO DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL COOPERATION ADOPTED IN 1966.

D. U. S. EMPHASIS ON FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IS ENTIRELY CONSISTENT WITH IMPORTANCE U. S. ATTACHES

TO COMBATTING RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION. AS A NATION, WE HAVE NOT ONLY UNDERTAKEN A SOLEMN CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITMENT TO THE OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS - A COMMITMENT WHICH WAS NATURAL OUTGROWTH OF LONG LIBERTARIAN TRADITION - BUT HAVE UNDERTAKEN TO TRANSLATE WORDS INTO ACTION. AMERICAN SOCIETY'S UNIQUE EXPERIMENT IN MULTIRACIALITY HAS, IN FACT, MADE CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS, ESPECIALLY DURING PERIOD SINCE ENACTMENT OF UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, BOTH IN STUDY AND IN IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLES IN AREA OF RACIAL AND ETHNIC EQUALITY.

THIS ACHIEVEMENT, WHICH IS EVIDENCE OF OUR FIRM DEDICATION TO ELEMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS, HAS PROVIDED US WITH SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH OTHER MEMBER STATES,
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FOR, HAVING DONE SO MUCH IN THIS FIELD OURSELVES, WE ARE KEENLY AWARE OF HOW MUCH STILL REMAINS TO BE DONE.

E. AS SUGGESTED BY RESEARCH PROGRAM OUTLINED IN PARA 16 OF 93 EX/26, ONE OF MOST PROMISING AREAS FOR COOPERATIVE INTERNATIONAL STUDY AND POSITIVE NATIONAL ACTION RELATES TO PROBLEM OF ELIMINATING OBSTACLES TO FULL PARTICIPATION BY ALL RACIAL AND ETHNIC GROUPS IN POLITICAL AS WELL AS SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LIFE OF THEIR COMMUNITIES. OPPORTUNITY, AS WELL AS RIGHT, TO PARTICIPATE ON EQUAL FOOTING IN POLITICAL PROCESS AT BOTH DECISION-MAKING AND DECISION-EXECUTING LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT MUST BE REGARDED AS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN ANY PROGRAM

AIMED AT ACHIEVING FULL EXERCISE OF HUMAN RIGHTS
BY ALL. UNESCO CAN HELP TO MEET THIS CHALLENGE
BY ENCOURAGING INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION
ON STUDY OF THIS PROBLEM AND BY MAKING RESULTS OF
SUCH STUDIES, AS WELL AS OTHER FORMS OF TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE, AVAILABLE TO ALL MEMBERS THAT REQUEST
IT. THOSE MEMBERS THAT SINCERELY DESIRE TO
REMOVE ALL ETHNIC AND RACIAL BARRIERS TO ENJOYMENT
OF BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO INVITE
INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENTISTS TO UNDERTAKE,
UNDER UNESCO AUSPICES. PRACTICAL STUDIES IN THEIR
OWN TERRITORIES.

2. AS FOLLOW-UP TO ABOVE GENERAL REMARKS, DEL SHOULD
MAKE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS, FOR WHICH FULL
DETAILS WILL BE PROVIDED IN U. S. 18 C/5 SUBMISSION
(PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 1975-1976 BIENNIUM):

A. THAT UNESCO SPONSOR A PROGRAM OF RESEARCH INTO
FOLLOWING ASPECTS OF RACE AND ETHNICITY IN
BUREAUCRATIC STRUCTURES:

(A) IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES AIMED AT
INCREASING PROPORTIONATE REPRESENTATION OF
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ETHNIC AND RACIAL MINORITIES IN BUREAU-
CRATIC STRUCTURES; (B) ETHNIC/RACIAL
CONFLICT BETWEEN BUREAUCRACIES AND COMMUNITIES
THEY SERVE; (C) CHARACTERISTICS AND SIGNIFICANCE
OF ETHNIC/RACIAL DOMINANCE PATTERNS OF
DIFFERENT BUREAUCRATIC STRUCTURES; (D) ETHNICITY
AND RACE AS MAJOR FACTORS IN INFORMAL SYSTEMS
OF BUREAUCRATIC STRUCTURES.

B. THAT UNESCO SPONSOR AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF
SCHOLARS TO CONSIDER THESE AND OTHER RESEARCH PROPOSALS
WHICH MIGHT BE UNDERTAKEN BY UNESCO DURING DECADE FOR
ACTION TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION.

C. THAT UNESCO UNDERTAKE TO EXPLORE DESIRABILITY OF
CREATING AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS,
CONSISTING OF EXPERTS SERVING IN PERSONAL CAPACITIES,
SELECTED FROM LISTS OF PERSONS RECOMMENDED BY
NATIONAL COMMISSIONS, WHICH WOULD ADVISE DG AND DIRECTOR
OF HUMAN RIGHTS COORDINATION UNIT ON ALL MATTERS RELATING
TO UNESCO'S HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM.

3. AT APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY, DEL SHOULD INDICATE THAT
US ASSUMES THAT ANY ASSISTANCE DELIVERED TO PEOPLES
SUFFERING FROM DISCRIMINATION MENTIONED IN PARAGRAPH 17
WILL BE GRANTED TO REFUGEES IN COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM
THROUGH HOST GOVERNMENTS. RUSH

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